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Claims 1-5 (Cancelled)

6. (Amended) A method for modifying the surface of a substrate comprising the steps of:

(a) placing on said surface an article comprising (i) a melt-flowable composition and (ii) a dimensionally stable film for controlling the melt-flow behavior of said melt-flowable composition, such that said melt-flowable composition contacts said surface,

(said film having a surface topography;)

(b) heating said article to cause said melt-flowable composition to flow over and substantially cover a desired area of said surface to adhere said article to said surface,

said dimensionally stable film controlling the melt-flow behavior of said melt-flowable composition to substantially confine said melt-flowable composition to said desired area of said surface; and

(c) allowing said article to cool while substantially retaining said surface topography of said film.

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7. (New) A method according to claim 6 wherein said melt-flowable composition comprises a thermoplastic composition.

8. (New) A method according to claim 6 wherein said melt-flowable composition comprises a thermosetting composition.

9. (New) A method according to claim 6 wherein said melt-flowable composition comprises a semi-crystalline, thermosetting composition comprising an epoxy-polyester blend.

10. (New) A method according to claim 6 wherein said dimensionally stable film comprises an ultra-high molecular weight polyolefin.

11. (New) A method according to claim 6 wherein said dimensionally stable film comprises an ultra-high molecular weight microporous polyolefin.

12. (New) A method according to claim 6 wherein said dimensionally stable film comprises an oriented polyester.

13. (New) A method according to claim 6 wherein said dimensionally stable film comprises oriented polyethylene terephthalate.

Claims 14-15 (Cancelled)

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16. (New) A method according to claim 6 wherein said dimensionally stable film comprises a substantially smooth surface topography.

17. (New) A method according to claim 6 wherein said dimensionally stable film comprises a substantially smooth, paint-receptive surface,

said method further comprising applying paint to said paint-receptive surface,

said paint-receptive surface remaining substantially smooth following cooling.

18. (Amended) A method according to claim 17
[comprising providing wherein said dimensionally stable film
with] wherein said substantially smooth, paint-receptive surface
[comprising] comprises a thermosetting epoxy-polyester blend.

19. (Amended) A method according to claim 17
[comprising providing wherein said dimensionally stable film
with] wherein said substantially smooth, paint-receptive surface
[comprising] comprises an ethylene-vinyl alcohol film.

20. (New) A method according to claim 6 wherein (said
dimensionally stable film comprises a substantially smooth,
bondable surface.)

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(said method further comprising bonding a component to said surface of said film.)

21. (New) A method according to claim 6 wherein said dimensionally stable film exhibits a downweb and crossweb shrinkage of less than about 5% during said heating step.

22. (New) A method according to claim 6 wherein said dimensionally stable film exhibits a downweb and crossweb shrinkage of less than about 3% during said heating step.

23. (New) A method according to claim 6 wherein said dimensionally stable film exhibits a downweb and crossweb shrinkage of less than about 2% during said heating step.

24. (New) A method according to claim 6 wherein said dimensionally stable film exhibits a downweb shrinkage of less than about 1% and a crossweb shrinkage of less than about 0.5% during said heating step.

25. (Amended) A method according to claim 6 comprising placing said [laminated] article on the surface of a metal joint of a vehicle and heating said [laminated] article to seal said joint.

26. (Amended) A method according to claim 6 comprising placing said [laminated] article on the surface of a roof ditch of a vehicle and heating said [laminated] article to seal said roof ditch.

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27. (New) A method according to claim 26 wherein said dimensionally stable film comprises a substantially smooth, paint-receptive surface,

said method further comprising applying paint to said paint-receptive surface,

28. (Amended) A method for modifying the surface of a substrate comprising the steps of:

(a) placing on said surface [a laminate] an article comprising (i) a melt-flowable composition comprising a semi-crystalline, thermosetting epoxy-polyester blend and (ii) a dimensionally stable film for controlling the melt-flow behavior of said melt-flowable composition, such that said melt-flowable composition contacts said surface,

said film comprising an oriented polyester film having a substantially smooth surface topography;

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(b) heating said [laminated] article to cause said melt-flowable composition to flow [over] and substantially cover a desired area of said surface to adhere said [laminated] article to said surface,

said dimensionally stable film exhibiting a downweb and crossweb shrinkage of less than about 5% and controlling the melt-flow behavior of said melt-flowable composition to substantially confine said melt-flowable composition to said desired area of said surface; and

(c) allowing said [laminated] article to cool while substantially retaining said substantially smooth surface topography of said film.

29. (Amended) A method for modifying the surface of a substrate comprising the steps of:

(a) placing on said surface [a laminated] an article comprising (i) a melt-flowable composition and (ii) a dimensionally stable film for controlling the melt-flow behavior of said melt-flowable composition, such that said melt-flowable composition contacts said surface,

said film comprising a substantially smooth, paint-receptive surface comprising a thermosetting epoxy-polyester blend;

(b) heating said [laminated] article to cause said melt-flowable composition to flow [over] and substantially cover a desired area of said surface to adhere said [laminated] article to said surface,

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said dimensionally stable film controlling the melt-flow behavior of said melt-flowable composition to substantially confine said melt-flowable composition to said desired area of said surface; and

(c) allowing said [laminated] article to cool while substantially retaining said substantially smooth surface topography of said film.

Claim 30 (Cancelled)

31. (New) A method according to claim 29 wherein said dimensionally stable film comprises an oriented polyester film provided on one surface with a (thermosetting) epoxy-polyester blend.

32. (New) A method according to claim 6 wherein said melt-flowable composition comprises a plurality of melt-flowable layers in which (the melt-flow properties of the individual layers are tailored such that said layers cooperate with each other to achieve the desired coverage of said surface.)

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